

**R E M A R K S**

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**THE CLAIMS**

Claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the detecting unit detects whether the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting mounting, and that the detecting unit detects a direction which the movable unit faces when it is detected that the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting mounting, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 17, lines 5-10.

Claim 10 has been amended to clarify that the connecting member of the present invention comprises a mounting body on which the electronic apparatus is mountable such that a part of the electronic apparatus faces one of a first direction and a second direction. In addition, claim 10 has been amended to recite that a detection member is depressed by the electronic apparatus when the electronic apparatus is mounted on the mounting body with the part of the electronic apparatus facing the first direction, that a transmission unit transmits information indicating that the part of the electronic apparatus faces the first direction when the detection member is depressed and transmits information indicating that the part of the

electronic apparatus faces the second direction when the detection member is not depressed, and that an operation mode of the electronic apparatus is set based on the information transmitted from the transmission unit, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 39, line 3 to page 41, line 4.

Claim 11 has been amended to be rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of original claim 10.

New claim 20 has been added to recite a connecting mounting, as per the disclosure in Fig. 4 and the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 20, line 20, to page 22, line 23.

And new claim 21 has been added to be recite an electronic apparatus as per the disclosure in Figs. 9 and 10, and the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 31, line 24, to page 33, line 3.

Still further, the claims have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and/or to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-7 and 10-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by US 2003/0117521 ("Nagaoka"); and claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Nagaoka and the press release dated September 2, 2002, describing the Sony DSC-F77 digital camera ("Sony DSC-F77"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

Re: Independent Claim 9

The present invention as recited in amended independent claim 9 is directed to an electronic apparatus (camera 210 in Fig. 6) which is detachably mountable on a connecting mounting (cradle 201) to be electrically connected to the connecting mounting, the electronic apparatus comprising: an apparatus body; a movable unit (211) movably mounted on the apparatus body; a detecting unit (CPU 22) which detects whether the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting mounting, and which detects a direction which the movable unit faces when the detecting unit detects that the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting mounting; and a mode setting unit (CPU 22) which sets the electronic apparatus in an operation mode in accordance with the direction of the movable unit detected by the detecting unit.

Significantly, according to the present invention as recited in amended claim 9, the electronic apparatus (camera 210) itself detects that the electronic apparatus has been mounted on the connecting mounting and detects the direction which the movable unit of the electronic apparatus faces when it is detected that the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting member, and the electronic apparatus (camera 210) itself sets the operation mode based on the detected direction.

By contrast, Nagaoka teaches a cradle-installation type digital camera in which when the digital camera 14 is installed in the cradle 11, the cradle 11 (not the digital camera 14) detects the direction which the camera faces to control the operation of the camera (see paragraph [0052], lines 1-2).

In addition, with respect to Sony DSC-F77, it is respectfully pointed out that the rotating capabilities of the lens unit merely enhance shooting creativity, and that Sony DSC-F77 merely teaches that the camera sets an operation mode thereof based on the rotational direction of the lens. For example, the user can rotate the lens and take a self portrait using the LCD to frame the shot.

However, it is respectfully submitted that neither Nagaoka nor Sony DSC-F77 disclose, teach or suggest an electronic apparatus itself which comprises a detecting unit which detects whether the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting

mounting, and which detects a direction which the movable unit faces when it is detected that the electronic apparatus is mounted on the connecting mounting, and a mode setting unit which sets the electronic apparatus in an operation mode in accordance with the direction of the movable unit detected by the detecting unit, as according to the present invention as recited in amended claim 9.

Re: Independent Claim 10

The present invention as recited in amended independent claim 10 is directed to a connecting mounting (cradle 401 in Fig. 11) for holding an electronic apparatus (camera 410) so as to be electrically connected to the electronic apparatus, the connecting mounting comprising: a mounting body (402) on which the electronic apparatus is mountable such that a part of the electronic apparatus faces one of a first direction and a second direction opposite to the first direction; a detection member (second connector 405a or 405b) which is depressed by the electronic apparatus when the electronic apparatus is mounted on the mounting body with the part of the electronic apparatus facing the first direction; and a transmission unit which transmits information indicating that the part of the electronic apparatus faces the first direction when the detection member is depressed (e.g., second connector 405a in Fig. 11), and which

transmits information indicating that the part of the electronic apparatus faces the second direction when the detection member is not depressed (e.g., second connector 405b in Fig. 11); wherein an operation mode of the electronic apparatus is set based on the information transmitted from the transmission unit (i.e., based on which direction the part of the electronic apparatus faces).

It is respectfully submitted that the cradle 11 of Nagaoka does not comprise a detection member which is depressed by the digital camera 14 thereof to detect a direction of the part (e.g., the LCD 17) of the camera when the digital camera 14 is mounted on the cradle 11 thereof with the part facing a predetermined direction, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 10. Instead, in Nagaoka, the orientation of the digital camera 14 is determined based on whether communications can be performed with either the imaging system terminals 23 or the display system terminals 25 (see paragraphs [0053] to [0055]).

Re: Independent Claim 11

The present invention as recited in amended independent claim 11 is directed towards a connecting mounting (cradle 401 in Fig. 11) for holding an electronic apparatus (410) so as to be electrically connected to the electronic apparatus, the connecting mounting comprising: a mounting body on which the

electronic apparatus is mountable such that a part of the electronic apparatus faces one of a first direction and a second direction; a mounting connector (second connector 405a or 405b) which is provided in the mounting body, and which is movable between (i) a connecting position (e.g., position of second connector 405b in Fig. 11) to connect to an apparatus connector (female connector 415) of the electronic apparatus when the electronic apparatus is mounted on the mounting body with the part (e.g., LCD 13 in Fig. 11) of the electronic apparatus facing the first direction, and (ii) a non-connecting position (e.g., position of second connector 405a in Fig. 11) not connected to the apparatus connector when the electronic apparatus is mounted on the mounting body with the part of the electronic apparatus facing the second direction; a confirming unit which detects whether the apparatus connector of the electronic apparatus is connected to the mounting connector; and a movable mechanism (supporting axis 406, movable member 407) which operates by force produced when the electronic apparatus is mounted onto the mounting body, so as to move the mounting connector to the connecting position when the part of the electronic apparatus faces the first direction, and to move the mounting connector to the non-connecting position when the part of the electronic apparatus faces the second direction.

It is respectfully submitted that Nagaoka does not disclose, teach or suggest a mounting connector which is movable between a connecting position and a non-connecting position based on whether the electronic apparatus is mounted on the mounting body with the part of the electronic apparatus facing the first direction or the second direction, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 11.

Re: Claims 14-19

According to the data processing apparatus and method of the present invention as recited in claims 14-19, when the electronic apparatus is mounted on the holding unit/connecting mounting, a direction relative to the holding unit/connecting mounting that the part of the electronic apparatus faces is judged; and the electronic apparatus is set in an operation mode in accordance with the judged direction; wherein, in the operation mode, data is exchanged between the electronic apparatus and the data processing apparatus. Thus, with the structure and method of the present invention as recited in claims 14-19, the connecting mounting and the electronic apparatus need not include a judging unit and a setting unit. Therefore, the memory capacity of the connecting mounting and the electronic apparatus can be reduced, which is advantageous because the cost to increase the memory capacity of the connecting mounting (cradle 1) or the electronic



apparatus (digital camera 10) is expensive as compared with the cost to increase the memory capacity of the data processing apparatus (PC 301).

With respect to the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that Nagaoka merely discloses that when the digital camera 14 is installed, the cradle 11 automatically detects its direction (paragraph [0052]). However, Nagaoka does not disclose a data processing apparatus which sets the operation mode of the digital camera 14. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Nagaoka does not disclose, teach or suggest a data processing apparatus or method for judging and setting an electronic apparatus as according to the present invention as recited in claims 14-19, and that Nagaoka cannot achieve the advantages achieved by the structure and method of the present invention as recited in claims 14-19.

Re: New Claim 20

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 20, a connecting mounting is provided which comprises a mounting body and a holding unit which is rotatable in the mounting body. Therefore, in the connecting mounting according to claim 20 of the present invention, the electronic apparatus does not need to be demounted from the rotatable holding unit in order to mount the electronic apparatus again in

a different direction to change the operation mode. And with the structure of the present invention as recited in new claim 20, the operation mode of the electronic apparatus is changed easily by rotating the rotatable holding unit while the electronic apparatus stays mounted.

By contrast, it is noted that Fig. 7 of Nagaoka shows a list of functions realizable according to the direction in which the digital camera 14 is installed in the cradle 11 (paragraph 0056, lines 1-3). In Nagaoka, to change the function which the digital camera 14 performs, the user must demount the digital camera 14 from the cradle 11 and mount the camera 14 again in a reverse direction. In addition, Sony DSC-F77 merely teaches a camera with a photographing lens on rotating cylinder.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that neither Nagaoka nor Sony DSC-F77 disclose, teach or suggest a connecting mounting comprising a holding unit which holds an electronic apparatus, and which is rotatably provided in the mounting body and electrically connectable to an electronic apparatus, as according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 20.

Re: New Claim 21

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 21, the data processing apparatus detects the

connection direction of the electronic apparatus and the connecting mounting, and transmits the information of the operation mode to the electronic apparatus. Therefore, according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 21, the connecting mounting and the electronic apparatus need not include the judging unit and the setting unit. And as a result, the memory capacity of the connecting mounting and the electronic apparatus can be reduced.

It is respectfully submitted that neither Nagaoka nor Sony DSC-F77 disclose, teach or suggest a data processing apparatus which detects the connection direction of the electronic apparatus and the connecting mounting, and which transmits the information of the operation mode to the electronic apparatus, as according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 21.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 9-11, 14, 15 and 19 and claims 16-18 depending therefrom, including new independent claims 20 and 21, clearly patentably distinguishes over the cited prior art of record, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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